

### REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8 - 13, 19 are allowed in the application. The present amendment seeks to correct an inadvertent error made in the last amendment of claim 1 submitted March 10, 2010; the variables involved are R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup>/R<sup>9</sup>. The relevant facts leading to the present amendment are as follows:

(a) In claim 1 as originally submitted, R<sup>6</sup> is selected from a list of 24 choices – (23) recites heterocycles, and (1) – (22) and (24) all pertain to non-heterocyclic groups; R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen and a group from R<sup>6</sup>, with the proviso that not more than one of R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, and R<sup>9</sup> is a heterocycle.

(b) The office action mailed December 14, 2009 (and as corrected in the Interview Summary mailed February 22, 2010) indicates that the examined subject matter includes compounds wherein Y is N, R<sup>6</sup> is optionally substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazole, and R<sup>2a</sup>, R<sup>2b</sup>, R<sup>3a</sup>, R<sup>3b</sup>, R<sup>7</sup> - R<sup>9</sup>, R<sup>b</sup> and R<sup>a</sup> represent nonheterocyclic groups as set forth in claim 1; the office action further indicates that claim 1 would be allowable if amended to overcome a §112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph rejection, and "rewritten directed solely to the elected compounds indicated as being examinable, *supra*."

(c) In Applicants' response submitted March 10, 2010 claim 1 was amended to overcome the §112 rejection and to conform to the indicated allowable subject matter. In particular the R<sup>6</sup> definition in claim 1 was amended to recite only optionally substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazole; thus, choices (1) – (22), and (24) for R<sup>6</sup>, all pertaining to "nonheterocyclic groups" were deleted. Inadvertently, however, the definition for R<sup>8</sup>/R<sup>9</sup> was not amended to reflect the allowable scope, i.e., R<sup>8</sup>/R<sup>9</sup> being selected from the "nonheterocyclic groups" (1) – (22), and (24) of original R<sup>6</sup>. Thus, as it stands now R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> in claim 1 are either hydrogen or optionally substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazole. The current definition for R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> is clearly erroneous for the following reasons:

- (i) the original definition for R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> provides that only one of R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>8</sup>, and R<sup>9</sup> is a heterocycle; since currently R<sup>6</sup> is a heterocycle, neither R<sup>8</sup> nor R<sup>9</sup> can also be a heterocycle;
- (ii) dependent claims 5, 8, 11, 12 and 19 all include an R<sup>8</sup>/R<sup>9</sup> that is neither hydrogen nor optionally substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazole; and
- (iii) none of the exemplified compounds have an R<sup>8</sup>/R<sup>9</sup> that is 1,2,4-oxadiazole.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendment is needed for proper protection of the invention, and that that it requires no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. The entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested.

Serial No.: 10/583,675  
Case No.: 21603YP  
Page No.: 7

Applicants believe no fee is due in connection with this amendment; however, if there are fees required they may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

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